

AGREEMENT ON A JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM ON INFORMATICS

BETWEEN

Udine University, represented by its Rector, Prof. Alberto Felice De Toni, with legal domicile at University of Udine, Via Palladio n. 8, 33100 Udine (Italia), codice fiscale 80014550307;

AND

Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, represented by its Vice Rector for studying and international relationship Prof. Dr. Cristina Beretta with legal domicile at Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, Universitätsstraße 65-67, A-9020 Klagenfurt (Austria)

PREAMBLE

This Joint degree agreement stems from the desire of its signatories, the two institutions mentioned above, in the spirit of European co-operation, to set up and develop a system of academic exchange. Both universities have already established two agreements on Joint degree programs, one between the study programs “Multimedia Communication and Information Technologies” of the University of Udine and “Information Technology” of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, the other between the study programs “Electronic Engineering” of the University of Udine and “Information Technology” of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt. The present agreement involves the study programs “LM 18 – Informatica” of the University of Udine and “Angewandte Informatik” of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt.

This European awareness, present in both institutions, forms the basis for them to cooperate in their dual sphere of teaching and research within the framework of existing and future programs promoted by the Commissions of the European Community.

Hence, the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt and the University of Udine have decided to promote an exchange of students that will culminate in the award of a joint degree of both institutions under the conditions specified hereunder.

The Italian Ministerial Decree n. 270 of 22 October 2004 on “Modifications to the regulations about norms concerning the didactic autonomy of the Universities, approved by means of the decree of the Minister of University and Scientific and Technological Research 3 November 1999, n. 509” provides in art. 3, paragraph 10, that on the base of appropriate agreements, the Italian universities can award degrees jointly with other Italian or foreign universities. For Austrian universities the legal basis for awarding degrees jointly with foreign universities is established in UG 2002 § 51 Abs. 2 Z 27.

Within the framework of this agreement, “home institution” refers to the institution in which a student is formally enrolled as a degree candidate, while “host institution” refers to the institution that has agreed to receive students from the home institution for a period of study.

1. Objectives

The University of Udine and the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt establish to collaborate to the realization of a university training with the final aim to confer a master's degree on the following disciplinary area: "Informatics".

This agreement allows students of the University of Udine, Department of Mathematics and Informatics (UNIUD) and the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, Faculty of Technical Sciences (KLU), upon the successful fulfillment of the conditions indicated in this agreement, the opportunity of receiving the academic degree of the home institution and the legal effects of the corresponding academic degree of the host institution.

The holder of the academic degree is entitled to use the academic degree in the form relevant due to the legal situation of the country concerned. In particular, upon successful fulfillment of the conditions set forth in this agreement, the students of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt shall be awarded the degree "Diplom-Ingenieurin" or "Diplom-Ingenieur" and the legal effects of the degree "Laurea Magistrale" of the University of Udine. Similarly, upon successful fulfillment of the conditions set forth in this agreement the students of the University of Udine shall be awarded the degree "Laurea Magistrale" and the legal effects of the degree "Diplom-Ingenieurin" or "Diplom-Ingenieur" of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt.

In reference to this agreement, both partners agree to respect the laws and regulations in force in the two countries.

The details of this agreement are reported in Appendices A, B and C. These appendices may be modified with a written agreement between the Program Coordinators of both institutions (Section 6).

2. Candidates for the Joint Degree (JD) Program

- a) Students registered as degree candidate at University of Udine, Department of Mathematics and Informatics (UNIUD) or Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, Faculty of Technical Sciences (KLU) shall have access to the JD Program.
- b) Students shall be screened for eligibility for admission as JD Program candidates by the home institution. The home institution shall respect the admission requirements and enrollment constraints of the host institution.
- c) JD Program candidates are to be nominated by their home institution. This nomination shall replace the evidence of university entrance qualification and the legalization. Only students with very good standing at their home institution might be nominated for this program. Details of nomination are pointed out in Appendix A.
- d) JD Program candidates shall be subject to the standard rules, regulations and enrollment constraints of the host institution. They shall register at the host institution only for the parts of the study program which will be carried out under the responsibility of the host institution. They shall, in terms of registration procedure, be granted all privileges for candidates of "mobility programs".

The host institution, on the basis of reciprocity, shall waive the student of the tuition fees related to those parts of the study program which will be carried out at the host institution.

3. Courses, Exams and Theses

- a) Exams for individual courses shall follow the rules of the institution where the course was audited and is examined. Final exams shall be organized under the responsibility of both institutions. The examination boards shall be composed of faculty members. In general, they will be composed of chaired professors.

- b) JD Program theses shall be supervised jointly by both institutions. For that reason, the JD Program candidates shall choose one main supervisor for one institution, and shall be allocated a second supervisor from the other institution. Both supervisors shall be members of the examination board for the oral master exam.
- c) Details about courses to be audited and examined will be pointed out in Annex C.

4. Conditions for Obtaining the JD Program Degree

- a) The JD Program degree shall only be awarded after the student has completed his/her studies at the home institution, and has additionally fulfilled the following requirements:
 - i) award of at least 30 ECTS credit points under the responsibility of the host institution;
 - ii) completion of a diploma/master thesis;
 - iii) successful completion of the oral (and, if applicable, written) master exams.
- b) The University of Udine and the Alpen-Adria Universität Klagenfurt shall each issue a certificate on the academic degree according to its regulations. Besides, the certificates will be accompanied by a bridge document containing relevant facts on the Joint Degree Program.
- c) For the purpose of international mobility, each diploma will be accompanied by a diploma supplement according to art. IX 3 of the Lisbon Recognition Convention of 11 April 1997.

5. Reimbursements

In case of reimbursements, expenses for travel and accommodation will be remitted to the students' account. The host institution engages to help students in their incoming procedures and in obtaining the same facilities available for their students and/or scholars.

Before students' departure, the home institution must guarantee that exchange students have purchased the required insurance.

6. Program Coordination and Student Counseling

- a) Each institution will nominate a program coordinator to ensure that the JD Program proceeds according to a reasonable schematic plan, and that the terms of this agreement are carried out.
- b) Each program coordinator will ensure that a substitute or replacement of this institution's coordinator is named. Each program coordinator will ensure that the partner institution has all necessary information available for the promotion of the program.
- c) Further on, the host institution will appoint, for each student, a tutor to whom he/she may apply for advice or assistance during his/her stay in the host country.
- d) The persons responsible for the program at both institutions shall meet at least once a year in order to:
 - review the effectiveness of the teaching programs;
 - examine the academic results achieved by the students in the light of the institutions' joint effort;
 - propose further actions.

7. Resolution of Conflicts

The parties agree to solve in a friendly manner any controversy arising from the interpretation of the present agreement. In the event that the disagreement cannot be resolved, the issue(s) will be submitted for arbitration; each party will appoint a member of the arbitration panel, and one member will be chosen by mutual consent.

8. Duration, Amendment, Review and Termination of Agreement

- a) This agreement shall be in force from 1st October 2014 and will be binding upon the parties for a period of three years. It shall be subject to revision, modification, or renewal after proper evaluation by mutual written agreement.
- b) The agreement may be terminated at the request of either institution, provided that such a request is made in writing at least twelve months before termination is to become effective. Any termination of the agreement must take into account the rights of students already participating or accepted for any exchange to complete the parts of the study program which will be carried out under the responsibility of the host institution.
- c) An evaluation of this agreement will be initiated by both institutions at least twelve months prior to its expiration to ascertain if the program should be continued and, if so, how it might be improved.

9. Support for this program

The KLU and the UNIUD shall take all necessary joint actions vis-à-vis governments and the Commissions of the European Community to secure financial aid for this program.

10. Promotion of the program

In order to promote joint actions in education and research, both KLU and UNIUD shall encourage:

- the exchange of students, university staff, and researchers;
- study sessions, workshops, and seminars on previously agreed subjects;
- the exchange of information, documents, and scientific publications;
- student exchange involving work in practica or visits to companies.

The exchange of persons shall comply with the regulations and procedures in force at the home institutions.

11. Waiver of financial obligations

The signing of this agreement does not entail any financial obligation for the parties.

12. Extension to other partners

The signatories plan the possibility to open the present agreement to other partners/academic institutions. The extension will be formally established through additions to this agreement.

For the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt

For the University of Udine

Vice Rector for studying and
international relationship

Rector

Prof. Dr. Cristina Beretta e.h.

Prof. Alberto Felice De Toni e. h.

Klagenfurt, the 18. Feb. 2015

Udine, the 7. Apr. 2015